Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission

89 Jefferson Blvd.

Warwick, RI. 02888

By Electronic Transmission

Dear members of the hearing board,

I am taking this opportunity to revise and extend my remarks of 22 September, 2021, at the public hearing discussing the placement of the ground side transmission cable in North Kingstown. As I discovered at the meeting, the transmission cable's proposed route will have it placed on Shores Acres Ave. and continue down Camp Ave. until it reaches the Proposed substation. As you heard from the effected residents of those streets, we have concerns over the placement of this route in a residential area, when this cable could be routed through the industrial park without impacting the residents of the neighborhood. I was told after the public comment period by a representative of Revolution Wind that the route through the park could not be used, as they were denied the option by the land owner. Interestingly enough, the owner of the area in question, (101 Circuit Drive), was at the meeting and told me he was only approached once, and was never made an offer for the right to run the cable to the existing substation through his plot. I question if this proposed decision was made strictly on the cost of running this cable, and not on the impact of the area.

I will restate the points and questions I asked at the meeting, and add to them:

- 1. What is the depth of the vault and conduit of the project?
- 2. How will transmission heat be dissipated? Is this an oil filled cable? North Kingstown's water supply comes from wells.
- 3. What is the expected period of road construction for the residential area? These roads are two lanes, and only have one point of egress to Post Road for all the residents, school busses, and business travel.
- 4. Will blasting be required for this construction? Rhode Island is known for its rocks. If required, this will be next to our homes.
- 5. Has the shore landing been redesigned taking into account the issues experienced with the current Block Island Cable landing? That cable landing has been eroded a number of times since installation.
- 6. If the route through the residential area is used, we will lose the current buffer zone between the street and the industrial park, which was placed to reduce sight lines, noise, and light pollution. What mitigation is planned for this?
- 7. The current intersection of Shores Acres Ave. and Camp Ave. floods with moderate rain. What effect will this have on the cable and splice vaults. What mitigation is planned for this?
- 8. Underground Transmission lines have a life expectancy of Approx. 40 Years. While that is a good period of time, again, why run this along a residential street when you have an industrial area next door? <sup>1</sup>

9. While the topic of EMF was not addressed by the presentation, I did discuss this with the Revolution Wind team after the meeting. This installation will produce between 96 and 24 uT on centerline, falling to 13 to 3 uT 5 meters from centerline according to National Grid's own white paper. While these measurements are in microteslas (a European standard), and not milligauss, (a US standard), they are readily convertible. There are numbers of residents and workers from the industrial park that walk these streets at lunch or other times. Every one of these people will be exposed to this field. A number of studies point to health concerns due to exposure to EMF. <sup>2,3,4</sup>

These questions come from a concern for this cable installation only, and should not be taken as an attack on the offshore project as a whole. The current proposed route through the residential area is questionable with the industrial area next door. I hope the board takes the concerns of the neighborhood into account when they make their decision.

Thank You

Donald J. Dennehy Jr.

10 Windward Walk

North Kingstown, RI.

## Footnotes:

1. XcelEnergy- Information about burying High-Voltage transmission lines.

https://www.transmission.xcelenergy.com/staticfiles/microsites/Transmission/Files/PDF/Projects/CO/Avery/Transmission-CO-Avery-Substation-Overhead-Vs-Underground-Info-Sheet.pdf

2. National Grid- Undergrounding high voltage electricity transmission lines.

https://www.nationalgrid.com/sites/default/files/documents/39111-Undergrounding high voltage electricity transmission lines The technical issues INT.pdf

3. EMFs.info-Units for measuring EMF's

https://www.emfs.info/what/units/

4. Healthline- should you be worried about EMF exposure? https://www.healthline.com/health/emf